



Cows on
Midsummer
Common
1967

155.76

Cambridge ANIMALS Chronicle by Mike Petty

1897

1897 11 03

A babel of sound greets you as you enter; some four hundred members of the canine tribe lift their voices in chorus. From end to end the Corn Exchange is filled with benches tenanted by dogs of every breed, size and colour - a sight to gladden the hearts of the Cambridge Canine Society committee at its first show which, if excelled in future years, will require a larger hall 1897 11 03

1898

1898 12 21

When Judge Hawkins came to Cambridge on one occasion he essayed to bring his dog with him into Trinity College. But the head porter refused to allow it to be brought within the precincts and persisted even after it had been made known to him that it was the dog of one of her Majesty's judges. The judge was angry at the time, but sent for the head porter and told him that he was right, making him a present in recognition of his trustworthiness 1898 12 21

1901

1901 06 03

"Knackeries", are places where diseased and other horses and cows are slaughtered. The common instrument used is the "pole-axe" which requires a large amount of practice to despatch an animal properly. Others resort to the gun, shot cartridges being preferable to bullets. The flesh is cut off the bones, boiled and sent to London for cats' meat, the fat is boiled down and sold for greasing carts and the bones ground into manure. Through all this work of killing, bleeding etc the sub-soil becomes saturated with the fluids which soon decompose and create a horrible stench 01 06 03

1901 06 05

Sir - There is now in course of erection a new knackery in Coldham Lane, Cambridge where some 300 horses can be slaughtered daily with improved appliances for their expeditious slaughter at a

minimum amount of pain. To throw the expense upon the ratepayers of the erection of a public knackery, whereby individual enterprise is thwarted, should not be encouraged. The fact that there is already a thoroughly efficient slaughterhouse hardly warrants the expense of a new one being thrown upon the ratepayers – “Vigilant” 01 06 05

1901 08 09

Messrs Pink Brothers new ‘Knackery’ in Coldham’s Lane, Cambridge, stands in an isolated spot and is constructed on the most hygienic principles. In one corner is a large dissecting table and there are two huge coppers for boiling down the carcasses, the remains of which are subsequently sent away by rail. Some distance away is a tank ventilated with a shaft considerably higher than the top of the passenger carriages that may pass on the railway. The possibility of any offensive odour reaching travellers is thus quite obviated and the same care has been exhibited in regard to any unpleasantness that may arise from the boiling operations 01 08 09

1903

1903 04 03

Cambridge Horse Club exists for the amelioration of the suffering of the horse as well as the benefit of the members. Not only was a member benefited if he lost a horse, but should the horse become ill it received prompt attention from their veterinary surgeon, Mr Bennett, and this saved money on doctors’ bills. The number of horses was 177; during the year eight had been lost and £80 had been paid to the owners who were well satisfied with their compensation. There had been an outbreak of glanders but the disease had been stopped. 03 04 03

1903 05 07

A sale of work was held to raise funds for the furnishing of a ‘Cats Home’ in Mr Banham’s yard, Cambridge. Persons going away from home can have their cats taken care of. The fee is not a large one. There will be room for an odd stray, provided it is a healthy cat; if not it will be mercifully destroyed. 03 05 07

1903 08 19

Sir – last evening I met three horses running loose and apparently unattended along Mill Road, Cambridge. Some distance behind them two men were being dragged along by a young horse which they were evidently trying to ‘break in’. Carts, cycles and other users of the road overtaking them had to slow down until they could dash past & foot passengers had to seek safety in doorways. I have also frequently met in St Andrew’s Street a high-spirited, high-stepping horse being led by a single rein about 20 feet long, the other end being held by a man on a bicycle! These things ought not to be allowed in our streets – Citizen 03 08 19

1904

1904 03 18

Ratting is a form of amusement which dates back to the dim ages. Usually this practice is carried on in out of the way places but in Cambridge ratting parties are to be seen on Midsummer Common on Sundays. The undergraduate takes a great pride in the sporting qualities of his “dawg’s” pedigree, half-bred or mongrel, and certain townies feed this pride for collecting a supply of rats for the alleged sporting dogs to worry. With stout wire cages slung on their backs the dealers await the arrival of undergraduates and then offer rats at a “bob apiece”. Rat after rat is released from the cage, given half a dozen yards start, and then the dogs “course” it to its death. The slaughter over the dead rats are piled on the common to fester and rot. – 04 03 18

1904 04 07

A few years ago such a group such as the Cambridge and Chesterton Horse Club would have been out of the question but over the last six years it had grown beyond all expectations and now has a membership of 185. All who possess horses should join: during the past year they paid £235 to 16 members who lost horses by death. The condition of horses in Cambridge and the treatment meted out

to them is much better than previously for if an owner neglected his animal he is prohibited from receiving the benefits of the club 04 04 07

1904 07 30

Grass snakes escape from a collector in Mill Road & are found in numerous gardens [3.4]

1906

1906 09 15

Mill Road has never known anything quite so strange as eighteen cassowaries which have been translated from the Pacific Islands to a piece of ground reached by a short lane down Gwydir Street. They have been collected by the Hon Walter Rothschild who is writing an monograph and placed in the charge of Mr F Doggett as they flourish better here than anywhere else in England. 06 09 15a [3.6]

1906 03 31

The owner of the Holme Wood Estate went to court to restrain four undergraduates from trespassing on his land to catch moths. They had arrived on the reclaimed mere with elaborate paraphernalia for luring unwary insects to their doom and remained twelve days, to the annoyance of gamekeepers. They swung lanterns in the pheasant covers, placed 'sticky stuff' on trees and erected a sheet on the roadway. They were fined one shilling. 06 03 31 & a

1906 09 19

The world-famed travelling Educator of Natural History will pay Cambridge a visit after an absence of 15 years. Bostock and Wombwell's circus was instituted in February 1805 and novel additions are being made to keep pace with the times including specimens of Tasmanian Devil and the gigantic blue and red faced mandrill. In olden days shopkeepers used to close and the public declare a holiday in order to explore the menagerie. The conditions of the animals speaks volumes for the kindness and attention with which they are treated. 06 09 19a

1906 10 08

Much interested was excited by a strange feathered visitor alighting on a pinnacle of King's College chapel. On Sunday afternoon it was attacked by crows but it thrust out its long neck and gave a vicious snap of its large beak. The bird possessed grey plumage on the breast and darker feathers on the back. In flight it presented a remarkable appearance, having enormous wings and legs, similar to those of a stork or heron. – cormorant 06 10 08 [3.7]

1906 10 30

We have received a letter from a lady in Bridge Street complaining of her loss of new fewer than nine cats and that it seems to be the general opinion they are taken to the Anatomical Laboratory for dissection. This is a false as it is odious. The Professor of Biology says he knows of two people who possess air guns and shoot cats but anybody who came there with them would be kicked out of the door. 06 10 30a [3.8]

1906 11 03

Allegations of vivisection by University departments – 06 11 03

1907

1907 01 26

It would show a little more consideration for the feelings of other people if the dog-fancying undergraduate would go a little farther afield than Midsummer Common for their rat-worrying exhibitions. I have no objection to the extermination of the rodents nor to the training of dogs for the purpose, but to many people the sight of the 'sport' in full view of Victoria Avenue is repulsive and disgusting. Such displays should not be permitted in places which force the sight of them willy-nilly upon every passer-by 07 01 26a

1907 04 04

Cambridge Horse Club had many ups and downs during the last ten years. Gentlemen who lost their horse were compensated to the full market value. When the animal was ill it was taken to Mr S. Bennett, the veterinary surgeon where it got skilful attention until it recovered. There had been a small epidemic amongst horses but fortunately it did not extend or it would have been serious for their finances. 07 04 04

1907 06 22

Charles Lawrence's kennels at Chesterton have bred many famous animals in the dog world, winning prizes in Antwerp, Brussels and Rotterdam. Purchasers come from all over the country; Alderman Pratt of Bradford recently bought two pups for £100 while one sold for £300. During term time a familiar sight on Market Hill is a man surrounded by dogs which he sells to undergraduates at fancy prices. Mr Lawrence bought one for £2 cash, then exhibited it at a show and sold it for £150. To see a collection of valuable clumber, field and cocker spaniels gambolling in the paddock is a sight which must appeal even to those who have but the barest acquaintance with a good dog. 07 06 22b

1907 08 28

An RSPCA Inspector saw a box of wild birds in the booking office at Isleham railway station addressed to a man in Islington. He found it contained a number of goldfinches together with some linnets, their wings fluttered through the side of the box. A birdcatcher of The Pits, Isleham claimed they were chaffinches. A linnet or chaffinch was worth fourpence while a goldfinch, newly caught, was worth about a shilling. Goldfinches had been sold for up to 30 shillings, but that was only after they'd been taught. 07 08 28 a & b

1908

1908 01 24

A West Norfolk gamekeeper has shot and killed one of the luminous owls which have appeared in East Anglia of late. Whilst out one very dark night he saw a bright blue light pass close by his face. He fired at it and found a poor, old, half-starved barn owl dead on the ground. He thought it must have been gathering glow-worms as it was getting late in the winter. He has never seen another giving out any light. 08 01 24d

1908 05 11

Two men were summonsed for catching wild birds. P.S. Merry said he found them on ground adjoining Coldham's Common with a number of nets fixed to the ground and some calls birds in cages near at hand. They caught six linnets and at home had 25 others together with three greenfinches, all of which were released. They claimed they had permission from the landowner and so were exempt from prosecution. 08 05 11a

1909

1909 04 02

Cambridge British Beekeepers Association was wound up as they had members who only wanted to get what they could out of it. Cambridge honey was superior to any in the UK and they did not wish to see bee culture go down. So a new 'Cambridge and District Beekeepers Association' was formed to provide mutual help. 09 04 02

1910

1910 07 08

A foreigner, accompanied by a performing bear, stopped to refresh himself and his animal at the Bird Bolt public house, Newmarket Road. Sitting down on some straw next to another man the alien proceeded to break up a loaf of bread he had bought. The bear, who was held by a chain round his foot, evidently thinking the other chap was going to receive its share of the food, clawed hold of the man's leg and then sprang at and clawed his shoulder. The owner showing remarkable promptitude in pulling the animal off but. A performing bear badly mauled the landlady of a public house in Hertfordshire on Saturday. 10 07 08bb

1910 07 08

Court case over larks sent to London from Barnwell junction station – 10 07 08d & e

1910 11 25

The RSPCA entertained 75 Cambridge cattle drovers to a tea and concert in St Paul's Institute. The Master of Trinity College said grace. The Mayor hoped he would not see any of them in the police court for cruelty to animals. Cattle driving was not an easy job; it needs patience, gentleness, skill and endurance. Sometimes they were greatly tried and tempted to be cruel to their animals but they should use forbearance. As the men were leaving each was given a packet of tobacco. 10 11 25c

1911

1911 06 09

The Cambridge Horse Parade Society show on Midsummer Common attracted over 100 entries. Seldom were such glossy coats, spotless harness and glittering brasses seen in the streets of Cambridge on ordinary working days. The huge Shire horse attached to the brewers' drays, coal wagons and farm carts were in striking contrast to the high-stepping, spirited carriage and cab horses and dainty ponies drawing the smaller tradesmen's carts. Donkeys had a class to themselves; one looked very plump and contented which made him incline towards sluggishness. 11 06 09

1912

1912 01 19

Immense excitement was caused in Glisson Road when a bullock belonging to Charles Wright of Stretham became agitated while being driven to the Cattle Market. It took an aversion to Mr J.S. Palmer, attacking him from the rear. He grasped both horns but was lifted off the ground before slipping out of the way. The animal then dashed into the hall of the Warwick Hotel where Miss Baker closed the inner door just in time. The bullock butted it, then sat down on the mat. Mr Atkins, the butcher, sent two men with a rope and the animal was finally restrained 12 01 19a

1912 05 31

Cambridge Horse Parade show on Midsummer Common – 12 05 31g

1912 07 26

Clayhithe Zoological Gardens have added four beautiful silver seals from the Arctic oceans to the recent pythons and boa constrictors which have proved an immense attraction. The lemurs, apes, baboons, kangaroos, Syrian rats, cockatoos & Mangaby monkey with baby (the only one in Europe) are also much appreciated while the Shetland ponies are available for boys and girls to ride. Great crowds were here last week but under no consideration can more than 5,000 people be admitted in one day. In addition there are skittles, billiards, swings, and boats with dancing on the lawns or ballroom every evening. Grounds illuminated on Thursdays and Sundays. Everything high class at moderate price 12 07 26f

1912 09 06

Clayhithe zoo – detailed article. The big white cockatoo on the lawn at the Bridge Hotel, Clayhithe, was having an altercation. With her crest erect and her head close to the bars of her cage she was glaring and shrieking at the toucan that shares with several marmosets the big cage hard by. One young lady of 18 months had a biscuit in her chubby fist and presently toddled up to the cockatoo's cage and held it out. Cockie promptly stopped her scolding and accepted the proffered tit-bit. Soon the morsel was devoured. A low, chattering noise from the toucan's cage attracted attention to several of the prettiest little monkeys imaginable; they were not impressed with our English climate and refused to come out of their snug nest. All the animals and birds are in beautiful condition and the cages being in the open, there is no disagreeable smell 12 09 06, 06f & g

1914

1914 05 15

A pair of little brown owls have laid their eggs in the furnace of a portable boiler used for washing beehives on Chivers farm at Histon. Of course the fire has not been lighted recently but the copper is used every day, and when the owls are at home they do not mind this at all. They find their way in and out by the small iron chimney attached to the copper. These owls are not indigenous: Lord Lilford brought a pair from Spain and kept them in captivity near Thrapston. They thrived and he turned them into the open. They have multiplied and are now fairly common 14 05 15a

1915

1915 07 09

A Novel Occurrence. On Monday evening, a party of bathers in the Brook (at Bourn) noticed a large animal disporting itself on the bank and diving into the water. After pursuit, it was eventually shot by Mr. F. Crow. It proved to be a large, well-developed male otter in splendid condition, weighing 11½ lbs and measuring 40' inches from the tip of its nose to the tip of its tail. It was a most unusual visitor to this neighbourhood, an otter never having been known to have been taken here before. If the creature found its way up from the Cam at Byron's Pool, it must have made a journey of over ten miles 15 07 09 CIPof

1916

1916 04 26

The rookeries in Cambridge have been a good deal upset by the recent gales. Trees, which for generations have yearly been occupied by rooks, have been blown down, and some of the college grounds most frequented by them are now almost deserted, the silence being I most remarkable to those accustomed to the "cawing" of the sable birds. This is particularly noticeable at St. John's, formerly one of the most favourable nesting centres, and generally at the Backs there are fewer nests than usual 16 04 26 CIPof

1917

1917 01 13

Bullock escapes from Warrington's yard, Northampton St & gets into river [3.21]

1918

1918 02

Death of Charles Calvert Lawrence, dog fancier, bred Norwich terrier dogs with Hopkins in 1890's [1.14 & 3.2]

1923

1923 08 17

A meeting was held on Cambridge Market Hill under the auspices of the local branch of the World's League Against Vivisection. Some hundreds gathered around the first speaker who was heard amid a running series of questions and interruptions. He gallantly held his post for over an hour, and many of his points were agreed to, even by opponents of the movement generously. Certain diseases had been lowered doing the last 50 years in response to sanitary improvements, he said, but no direct evidence could be found as to any decrease of the death rate as a result of vivisection 23 08 17

1926

1926 05 20

Cambridge court heard that when an undergraduate came to Magdalene College he brought with him a bay gelding, worth £200, which was placed in stables in Cambridge and hunted with the Cambs Hunt and the University Draghounds. In December an agreement was reached with the L.N.E.R. for the carriage of the horse to Berwickshire. During loading into the horsebox at the station it lurched forward, fell out and broke its spine 26 05 20

1927

1927 03 11

Cambridge Women Citizens' Association heard that a cats' shelter should be provided in Cambridge for the reception and humane destruction of neglected, starved diseased and homeless cats. Mrs Norman Mason said last year 478 cats were brought to the home but the council had now ordered the shed to be taken down. Now if a pet cat was brought in they had nowhere to keep it and it had to be chloroformed. 27 03 11

1927 12 06

Cambridge Councillors heard that Mr D. Page had been appointed to act as pindar at a wage of £2 18s. 2d. per week, which included 5s, the value of the cottage now occupied by his predecessor, Mr C. Everitt. As he was unable to occupy the cottage at Coldham's Common there was a difficulty in locking and unlocking the gate and it was agreed that Mr Everitt be paid 10s a week for such services. 27 12 06

1927 12 24

Two heron 3 snipe, & 2 kingfishers seen on Coe Fen: "some wildlife left in spite of the Causeway" [3.1]

1928

1928

Bird sanctuary Adams Road opened by Cambridge ornithological Society on old skating rink site 82 04 29

1928 04 19

Members of the Cambridge Horse Club spent a jolly time at their annual dinner. It was formed 35 years ago when there were a great number of hansom cabs and horses and flies in Cambridge and if a man lost a horse he went round from house to house and collected. Some people thought that was rather objectionable and a man named William Wallis conceived the idea of a club for people who owned horses. It only cost 1d a day to join and they still had 50 members; when they considered the increase in motor traffic it was feather in their cap to know they stood safe financially. The Chief Constable said Cambridge was losing horses very rapidly but he hoped they would not all disappear. 28 04 19

1931

1931 03

Sheep graze on lawn at Kings College for first time in 50 years [2.21]

1931 05 08

An amazing freak, a kitten with two faces, was born at the 'Ramping Lion' garage near Fenstanton but lived only three days. The kitten was an extraordinary little object with its two mouths, two noses and four eyes, but it had only one head and consequently only two ears. 31 05 08o

1931 09 25

A cormorant, presumably the same bird which created something of a sensation when it perched on the tower of Ely cathedral, has been seen at Cambridge. For several nights it has come at dusk to one of the chimneys of the Saxon Cement Works, Coldham's Lane, and aroused great curiosity in the neighbourhood. It leaves its perch in the early morning and is not seen during the day, returning at night 31 09 25d

1932

1932 01 30

"Dukes Walk", the donkey which has been a familiar participant in all Poppy Day 'rags' has died. Rising from the mundane routine of drawing a chimney-sweep's barrow it enjoyed a distinguished career. In addition to being first favourite with undergraduates the animal was equally popular with children at Sunday School treats, as water-carrier at the University fruit-picking campaigns and as mascot to the 17th Lancers. It was while on military service that he earned his title which led to his

appearance before the King in the Military Tattoo at Olympia. His owner, Mr A.W. Wyer, is to get another donkey. 32 01 30

1932 06 24

There were three horses for sale on Midsummer Common – which is three more than last year. A group of bored-looking men watched the animals being put through their paces. An elderly man dressed in country clothes patted one of them and looked critically at its teeth. A young man in oil-stained overalls walked over, a pail in each hand. “What’s going on”, he asked. “The Horse Fair” I replied. “Never heard of it”. So pass out ancient institutions. 32 06 24

1934

1934 10 06

The dog trough which stands outside Lloyds Bank in Victoria Road has been in position for some weeks. It was erected by His Royal Highness Prince Chula of Siam in memory of Tony, a dog which gave him friendship and happiness during his Cambridge years. The Prince ‘went down’ some time ago but left the money for the trough to be erected 34 10 06

1935

1935

Blue Cross home established 1935, cattery buildings built 1960s as result legacy 85 09 21

1935 11 05

Death of “Tommy” - pony at Botanic Garden who pulled the lawn mower and was loved by children [1.8]

1935 05 21

According to the recent census taken for military purposes, Cambridge has a horse population of 779, excluding railway and military animals. This is abnormally high, being roughly twice as many as any other town of its size. In the riding horse and hunter class Cambridge takes fourth place in the country but the town is poorly supplied with carriage and trap horses. People have forsaken the horse for wheeled outings though there are still a few residents who prefer to sit behind a horse instead of a petrol engine. It seems that the motor salesmen of Cambridge are extraordinarily efficient. 35 05 21

1935 08 03

Prince the Airedale dog owned by Mrs Rowell of Fair Street is one of the most persistent cadgers. His life-long occupation is to sit in a public house and beg for pennies from customers which he does by tapping their pockets with his muzzle to make them jingle. If he is offered a penny he goes to the counter and buyers a biscuit which he lays at the feet of the donor and waits for permission to eat. He also goes to the shop and buys a newspaper for his mistress every morning. 35 08 03b

1936

1936 04 27

The new R.S.P.C.A. clinic for animals at Covent Garden was officially opened. Those who could pay took their animals to the veterinary surgeon but many could not afford the fees and three prominent vets had promised their professional assistance without any charge 36 04 27b

1938

1938 03 31

The Cats’ Home in Garlic Row, which opened in 1919, received 604 stray cats last year. Of these 541 were chloroformed, homes were found for 57 and six were claimed. Taken over by the Dumb Friends League in May 1937 – 38 03 31b

1940

1940 05 18

First aid for pets in wartime explained – 40 05 18

1940 05 31

A.R.P. for pets – list of centres – 40 05 31a

1943

1943 02 02

Pindar, pound and pony – horse placed on Stourbridge Common impounded but released by owner – 43 02 02a

1943 06 29

Queue for horse meat for pets in Wheeler Street – photo – 43 06 29

1947 09 20

5 puppies poisoned while making Accident Prevention Council film [1.12, TT 20.9.1947]

1950

1950 04 29

A large white cob swan walked up Cambridge castle Hill and found himself for 15 minutes the focus of much interest from the police, the press, two cats and the borough pindar. He first attracted attention waddling up the hill in the middle of the road – much to the consternation of drivers and cyclists. Oblivious to the hazards of walking in the middle of a Cambridge street, he took a look through the Shire Hall's entrance, but after a critical appraisal of the building he decided to continue his journey. It was then shepherded into the county police station yard where it stood and glared at everything that moved. Two inquisitive ginger cats approached, sniffing at the strange interloper, but they did not stay long. Neck arched, wings beating and hissing the big bird chased them away 50 04 29

1950 06 27

Hundreds of dead fish in Cam [2.5]

1953

1953 04 22

RSPCA open clinic in Great Eastern Street [2.15]

1954

1954 05 01

Great whale on show [2.20]

1954 08 10

The rabbit-killing myxomatosis disease which has been sweeping the country has been officially confirmed in Cambridgeshire for the first time. Following reports by farmers and gamekeepers that rabbits were dying on their lands with symptoms similar to the disease Ministry of Agriculture inspectors have found Chippenham and Boxworth to be affected areas. Government policy is to let the disease run its course. CDN 10.8.1954

1956

1956 03 30

Woolworth's application for a licence for a pet shop met criticism from councillors. Everyone knew the vast crowds who went into their Cambridge store and the noise made there - conditions which would worsen as even bigger crowds would be attracted. The animals would be kept in the same premises as food, much of which was open. People who kept pets under these conditions should go out of business. 56 03 30c

1956 05 16

The White Horse Riding Establishment in Barton Road, Cambridge, has been used as a riding school for 35 years and has stabling for 24 horses. Much of the teaching takes place on land down Grange Road and it would reduce the dangers for inexperienced riders taking horses down Barton Road if they had an Indoor Riding School. But neighbours complained that it was noisy and smelly and a relic of the past. Horse boxes unloaded on the pavement and children stacked their bikes against the wall when they popped in to give the horses tit-bits. 56 05 16a

1958

1958 03 04

Shag seen [4.9]

1958 04 23

A gleaming new R.S.P.C.A. clinic in Great Eastern Street was opened at a simple ceremony, a memorial to Sir Arthur Eddington. Dr Rattray traced the history of the clinic from its beginnings in a small house in Covent Garden to the adequate and modern building being opened where hurt and ill animals will be treated with the latest equipment. Last year 2,248 animals were treated by the Cambridge branch but after returning from doing splendid work in the East Coast flood areas Inspector Bartlett had developed pleurisy. The Great Yarmouth branch wrote that his work was wonderful. 58 04 23 c

1958 11 22

Norwich terrier dog originally bred by Jodrell Hopkins and 'Doggy' Lawrence – 58 11 22 & a

1959

1959 12 30

Cambridge Cats Home run by the Blue Cross in Garlic Row was filled to capacity with 75 animals over the Christmas holidays. In the course of a year the Superintendants, Dennis Broomfield and his wife, look after over 1,000 'lodgers' and a very large number of strays. Each cat has a large run to itself and the nights are spent in warm boxes lined with straw and cloth inside spacious 'hutlets'. Each cat eats about half a pound of fish a day – good quality rock salmon steaks - and gets through a good quantity of milk 59 12 30b

1960

1960 11 22

Ernest Cooper is a furniture dealer who lives in Beche Road. His father began the business with a horse and cart but it has grown since those days and the horse and cart disappeared. However his love for horses was re-awakened when he bought a dapple grey pony named Dandy for his daughter. Then, when she had outgrown him Ernest went to Chingford and bought a trap and put Dandy in the shafts. Each weekend he harnesses the pony up and goes for a trot in the side streets or out into the country enjoying the roughness of a pair of reins and the hardness of the buggy seat. 60 11 22

1961

1961 05 26

A day in the life of Bill, mongrel dog owned by licensee of Fountain pub – 61 05 26

1961 12 08

The collared dove is a new and exciting addition to the birds of Cambridgeshire. The first of these invaders from Eastern Europe settled on the Norfolk coast about five years ago and nested successfully at Overstrand. But they were first recorded in Cambridgeshire only two years ago. Three broods have been recorded from a pair nesting in Littleport and another pair has been seen in Adams Road. It will be interesting to see how they will stand a really hard winter. 61 12 08b

1962

1962 04 04

A wild Muntjak deer, believed to have wandered around Cambridge for more than a year, was cornered and captured by RSPCA officials in the Caius College boathouse. For months people have reported seeing it running across their gardens, nibbling their flowers or walking along main roads. Although tired the deer, about the size of a small dog, was still lively. It was placed in a disused aviary overnight and succeeded in loosening one side with its constant kicking. It was taken to the wooded countryside on the southern outskirts of the city and released. 62 04 04a

1963

1963 06 15

Zoology Department feature article – 63 06 15

1965

1965 01 21

Cambridge Cage Birds Association was formed from the Cambridge Ornithological Society. Its 200 members range from specialists who breed different strains to those content with one bird. W.A. Knights of Argyle Street specialises in speciality border canaries and has 60 birds. Others collect budgerigars, Zebra Finches or waxwings. The cage bird hobby is more expensive than it was but good birds can be bought from two pounds ten shillings. 65 01 21

1965 10 15

Blue Cross cats' home, Garlic Row – feature – 65 10 15f

1968

1968 08 02

Barbara Duff rescues dogs - saves 3 a week [4.1]

1971

1971 07 17

Runciman's veterinary surgeons: profile of Cambridge business; has just moved from Downing Street to Chesterton Road – 71 07 17

1976

1976 01 03

Cormorant seen [4.10]

1979

1979 02

Cormorant seen [4.11]

1980

1980 10 13

Several hundred Animal Aid protestors march through Cambridge [4.2]

1981

1981

Swan rescue service set up - H. Ketch 85 01 04

1983

1983 01 05

Animal Liberation Front steal 6 dogs Central Animal Services Building [4.3]

1983 02 16

Letter-bomb sent Prof Calne [4.4]

1983 08 13

Seventeen animals stolen from dog farm [4.5]

1983 10 17

Two hundred rodents stolen from labs [4.6]

1984

1984 11 16

Cambridge University professorship of Animal Welfare established [4.7]

1984 05 21

The British Percheron Horse Society held its annual show on Midsummer Common. Visitors saw the heavy horses put through their paces in different classes and there were plenty of other events to keep the family amused. Wisbech breeders A.S. Johnson and Son regained the challenge cup for best stallion in show. 84 05 21 p10

1985

1985 02 28

Two scientists banned by Home Office from experimenting on animals after causing unnecessary pain [4.8]

1985 01 31

Barbara Duff has been Cambridgeshire's stray dogs' greatest friend for twenty years. She has devoted all her energy, time and money to saving thousands from death. Her work started when she visited the council's dog pound near the Milton sewage works. There was a row of pathetic dogs each tied up in a large room, spotlessly clean but unexercised and fed only dog biscuits. She put some in her car and took them to her friends. If they did not want them, she took them to her home. Some she kept in kennels, which can be very expensive and she sold her own antique furniture to raise money. 85 01 31b